

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
FULL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
June 14, 2017

ACRPC held its monthly meeting at its office on Seminary Street in Middlebury with the Chair, Jeremy Grip of Ripton, presiding.

ROLL CALL:

Addison:

Bridport: Edward Payne
Andrew Manning

Bristol: Peter Grant

Cornwall:

Ferrisburgh: Arabella Holzapfel

Goshen: Jim Pulver

Leicester: Diane Benware

Lincoln: Paul Forlenza

Middlebury: Ted Davis
Karl Neuse
Ross Conrad

Monkton: Wendy Sue Harper

New Haven: Harvey Smith
Jim Walsh
Susan Smiley

Orwell:

Panton: James Dayton

Ripton: Jeremy Grip

Salisbury: Tom Scanlon
Barrie Bailey

Shoreham: Nick Causton

Starksboro: Rich Warren

Vergennes: Shannon Haggett

Waltham:

Weybridge: Ron Crawford

Whiting: Ellen Kurrelmeyer

CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES:

Addison County Farm Bureau:

Addison County Economic Development Corp:

Otter Creek Audubon Society:

Otter Creek Natural Resources:

Addison County Chamber of Commerce:

Kent Wright

Ron Payne

ACRPC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chair: Jeremy Grip

Vice-Chair: Diane Benware

Secretary: Ted Davis

Treasurer: David Hamilton

At Large: Nick Causton

Steve Revell

Tim Davis

STAFF

Executive Director: Adam Lougee

Assistant Director/GIS Manager: Kevin Behm

EM/Senior Planner: Tim Bouton

Transportation Planner: Josh Donabedian

Land use Planner: Claire Tebbs

Office Manager/Bookkeeper: Pauline Cousino

7:00 p.m. PROGRAM: Adam opened the meeting with a program on economic and community development in rural communities. Adam presented a PowerPoint presentation of the different types of programs, grant and loans available to communities in Vermont to encourage infrastructure or small business development. A copy of the presentation is available on the economic development page of ACRPC's Website at the following link: <http://acrpc.org/programs-services/economic-development/> (The PowerPoint is entitled, "Facilitating Economic Development in Vermont's downtowns and Villages" and is located about ¾ of the way down the page.)

7:45 BUSINESS MEETING: Jeremy Grip opened the meeting by introducing the first order of business.

I. Approval of Minutes. A motion by Peter Grant to accept the May, 2017 minutes, seconded by Ted Davis was approved by voice vote with Paul Forlenza and Jim Pulver abstaining.

II. Executive Board Minutes: Jeremy noted that the Executive Board minutes from May are available in your packet. If anyone has any questions regarding the minutes, please speak with a member of the Board or with Adam.

III. Treasurers Report: Adam presented the Treasurer's Report. He noted that revenues were slightly less than expenses through May. However, Adam also noted that we have not billed all May revenue or for several revenues billed quarterly. He believes revenues should pull ahead next month for the end of the fiscal year with these billings. Nevertheless, Adam recognizes that the budget will be close again this year and he needs to watch revenue for the last quarter of the year. **A motion by Ellen Kurrelmeyer to approve the treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Harvey Smith was approved unanimously by voice vote.**

IV. Committee Reports:

ACT250/248 Committee: Ellen provided a report of the Committee's activities and applications filed and approved since the last meeting. Ellen noted that we had not received a proposed application with a substantive regional impact and therefore the committee had not met.

Energy Committee: Jeremy reported that the Energy Committee met on June 6th at 6:00 p.m. The Committee reviewed the Goals and Policies for the draft Regional Energy Plan. It also set another meeting date for later this month. **It will meet again on June 28th at 5:00 p.m., just before the Executive Board meeting to review the Goals and Policies it set.**

Natural Resources: The Committee met this evening just prior to the full commission meeting. It reviewed the municipal energy siting maps and Vermont water quality priority matrix.

Transportation Advisory Committee: The TAC meeting in May focused primarily on this summer's projects in the Region and the election of officers.

Ed Payne suggested that when VTrans is working on Route 125 in Cornwall, it should look to increase the height of the road about a foot in the vicinity of the Foote House (Large yellow house that stands alone near the floodplain.) so it does not flood in that location any more.

Local Government Committee: The Local Government Committee did not meet.

V. Joint Partners Report: Ron Crawford noted that the Small Business Administration had recently awarded Maple Landmark owner Mike Rainville its Vermont Small Business Person of the year award.

VI. Delegate Staff Recognition/ Project Highlights: Jeremy welcomed Paul Forlenza of Lincoln to the meeting and asked him to say a few words about himself. Paul noted he was pleased to be here. He is a member of the Lincoln Selectboard looking forward to serving the Town of Lincoln.

Adam directed the Commission to the newsletter and highlighted two items. First, he focused on the Municipal Roads Grant in Aid program. He noted every town had received a letter about a grant it could receive to do road work this summer. Each town needs to apply by July 5, 2017. All should take advantage of this funding. Anyone with questions should speak with Josh.

Adam also noted that Bike /Ped grant applications are due by July 14th and encouraged those municipalities interested in applying to also speak with Josh.

VII. Old Business.

Discussion concerning Green Line: Adam noted that he had filed the Commission's testimony as directed at the April meeting. He has reached out to the Green Line to negotiate. However, Adam noted that Green Line had requested a temporary stay of the proceeding while it works with several electric providers and VELCO to assess the proposed projects impact on those providers systems.

Other: None.

VIII. New Business

VOTE on Proposed Workplan and Budget: Adam distributed a draft Workplan and Budget proposal for FY18, starting July 1, 2017. He noted it was substantially similar to the workplan and budget that the commission had reviewed in April. Adam briefly explained the changes and answered questions. **Peter Grant moved to approve the Workplan and Budget as proposed for FY 18. Harvey Smith Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.**

Resolution to adopt the Addison County Byway Corridor Management Plan: Adam included an outline of the Addison County Byway Corridor Management Plan in the package and a proposed resolution adopting that plan. He also included a link to the entire plan in the package. After a brief discussion of the plan, **Peter Grant moved that ACRPC adopt the Addison County Byway Corridor Management Plan. Ellen Kurrelmeyer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously on a voice vote.**

Regional Plan Update: Adam gave a brief update on where ACRPC stood regarding the re-adoption of the Transportation and Energy Sections of its Regional Plan.

Adam noted that the committee working on the Transportation plan had done all its outreach and had recently released a draft of that plan for staff and committee review. Adam expected to have a final draft of that plan for hearing from the consultant by the end of June. He expected to have the two regional hearings this fall and approve the Transportation plan by the end of the calendar year.

Adam referenced the Energy Committee report above. He noted he expected to have a very rough draft of the Energy Plan completed by the end of June and then take a year to revise, hold hearings and approve the plan for June of 2018.

Town Selection of Delegates and Alternates: Adam read a list of towns that had not submitted their nominations for commissioners to date. He asked commissioners representing those towns to remind their Selectboard to make appointments and the clerk to submit those appointments to ACRPC so all will be eligible to represent their town come the new fiscal year starting July 1, 2017.

Committees: Adam reminded the delegates that he would send out committee requests with the July package. Committees will be the same as this year. ACRPC asks all commissioners to serve on at least one committee. He asked the Commissioners to return their committee requests prior to the August Executive Board meeting so the Executive Board can make appointments for the September full Commission meeting.

Programs: Adam asked the Commissioners for ideas concerning programs they would like to hear for next year. Ellen suggested a program addressing the internet and its impact on and benefit to small rural businesses. Anyone else with other program ideas should contact Adam.

Other: Paul Forlenza raised a concern that Vermont Fish and Wildlife had approached the Town of Lincoln with the idea of opening a shooting range in Lincoln in an abandoned gravel pit on Cobb Hill.

NOTE: Paul called Adam the day after the meeting to tell him that Fish and Wildlife had withdrawn the idea.

IX. Member Concerns.

X. Adjourn. On a motion to adjourn by Peter Grant, seconded by Ellen Kurrelmeyer and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Adam Lougee